

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 COTONO 00976 091407Z

66

ACTION AID-59

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 OES-05 PC-05 USIA-15 IO-10 INR-07

DODE-00 AGR-10 INT-05 COME-00 /123 W

----- 110126

R 091040Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY COTONOU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7352

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

AMEMBASSY ROME

UNCLAS COTONOU 976

AFDROUGHT

ROME FOR FODAG

EO 11652: NA

SUBJ: COTONOU/PARAKOU WEEKLY REPORT NO 11. JUNE 29-JULY 5

REF A. NIAMEY B. COTONOU 705 AND PREVIOUS

1. SITUATION IN PORT OF COTONOU

EVACUATED STOCK AS OF 7/5

TOTAL BY TRUCK

A. TOTAL RELIEF GOODS 2581 48 6553

I. FED MILK POWEDER 0 0 1500

II. CANADIAN WHEAT FLOUR 1740 0 1615

III. CANADIAN SEMOLINA 467 48 2182

IV. UNICEF ICSM MALI 20 0 0

V. BELGIUM MILK POWDER 291 0 6

VI. AID SORGHUM MALI 0 0 1250

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PAGE 02 COTONO 00976 091407Z

B. TOTAL COMMERCIAL FOODS 0 0 5458

I. WHEAT FLOUR            0   0     138

II. SALT                    0   0     5320

C. AVERAGE RELIEF GOODS EVACUATED PER DAY: 369 MT

D. GENERAL MERCHANDISE EVACUATED DURING REPORTING PERIOD  
948 MT

E. PERCENTAGE OF SUITABLE RAILCARS DEVOTED TO ESSENTIAL  
FOODSTUFFS 64 PERCENT

F. ARRIVALS DURING REPORTING PERIOD (STANDING OFF PORT)

HELENE ROTH 1250 MT AID SORGHUM

DELTA PARAGUAY 1200 MT AID SORGHUM

2. PARAKOU SITUATION        EVACUATED    STOCK AS OF 7/5

A. TOTAL GOODS            2743 MT     1691 MT

I. FOOD AID                1621 MT     1343 MT

II. ESSENTIAL COMMERCIAL FOOD

AND GENERAL MERCHANDISE    1122 MT     348

B. PARAKOU APPARENTLY OPERATING WELL CONSIDERING INCREASED  
VOLUME OF TRAFFIC NIGER HAS SUCCEEDED IN RELEASING FROM THE  
PORT. WILLIAMS SHOULD REPORT BACK FROM THERE JULY 9.

3. CLEARED AND CLEANED WAREHOUSE SPACE IN PORT BEING READIED  
FOR SORGHUM ON BOARD HELENE ROTH AND DELTA PARAGUAY. ANTICIPATE  
ENTIRE 2450 MT WILL BE STORED INDOORS. CONTRACT SIGNED WITH  
SACOTRA JULY 5 CALLS FOR FOLLOWING PORT STORAGE CHARGES:

A. FIRST 25 DAYS AFTER UNLOADING - FREE

B. 26( 5#47 35TH DAYS - 30 CFA PER TON PER DAY

C. 36 THRU 45TH DAYS - 45 CFA PER TON PER DAY

D. 46TH DAY AND ON - 60 CFA PER TON PER DAY

THE COSTS SHOULD BE TAKEN INTO CONSIDERATION WHEN CONSIDERING  
ALTERNATIVES MENTIONED REF A ALTHOUGH 2300 MT ON MARY MAR DUE  
JULY 20 COULD NOT BE IMMEDIATELY STORED IN WAREHOUSE, IT COULD  
PROBABLY BE MOVED FROM DOCKS INTO WAREHOUSES OVER A PERIOD OF  
WEEKS IF DECISION IS MADE TO OFFLOAD MARY MAR IN COTONOU.

4. EMPTY SACKS SUPPOSEDLY LOADED DEL SOL PER BL WHERE NOT DIS-  
CHARGED COTONOU. VESSEL CAPT REPORTED SACKS WERE LOADED US  
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PAGE 03 COTONO 00976 091407Z

PORT THEN OFFLOADED TO FACILITATE SORGHUM LOADING. APPARENTLY  
SOMEONE FORGOT RELOAD SACKS. WHAT ACTION SHOULD BE TAKEN HERE  
WITH BL'S FOR MISSING EMPTY SACKS? FYI: SIMILAR INCIDENT OCCURRED  
LAST YEAR; EMPTY SACKS APPARENTLY USEFUL IN PORT/SHIPPING  
OPERATIONS, AND ARE "LOST" WHENEVER POSSIBLE.

5. WFP REP EYBAN REPORTS FRANCE GOING AHEAD WITH PLANS SHIP  
10,000 MT GRAIN FOR NIGER WITH EXPECTED ETA COTONOU SEPT.

SINCE EXPECTED ARRIVALS COINCIDE WITH NIGER'S HARVEST, DELAY OF SEVERAL MONTHS IN SHIPPING SCHEDULE COULD BE BENEFICIAL. REQUEST RDO NIAMEY ATTEMPT CONFIRM WITH OPVN AND FAC.

6. NEOGITATONS WITH TRUCKERS TO BYPASS OCDN BOTTLENECK BY TRUCKING GOODS DIRECTLY FROM COTONOU TO MALI BROKE DOWN LAST WEEK. OCDN REFUSED TO LET TRUCKS LOAD IN COTONOU WHEN MERCHANDISE WAS AWAITING TRUCK TRANSPORT IN PARAKOU. THIS IS CONSISTENT WITH OCDN POSITION FROM START THAT TRUCKS COULD LOAD IN COTONOU ONLY IF THEY WERE STANDING IDLE IN PARAKOU. TO PERMIT TRUCKS TO LOAD OUR SORGHUM IN COTONOU WHILE TRUCKS WERE NEEDED TO TRANSPORT NIGER COMMODITIES FROM PARAKOU WOULD IN EFFECT GIVE MALI A PRIORITY OVER NIGER. IN ANY CASE, TRUCKERS AVAILABLE IN COTONOU FOR GAO RUN ONLY HAD 100 MT ASSURED CAPACITY.

7. PORT EVACUATION FIGURES THIS WEEK ARE BY FAR THE BEST THIS YEAR AS NIGER REPRESENTATIONS FINALLY TAKING EFFECT. CONCLUSION REF A THAT WE WILL BE LUCKY XTO AVERAGE 1500 MT TO GAO PER MONTH STILL STANDS, HOWEVER. EVEN AT 370MT/DAY, IT WILL TAKE OVER A MONTH TO CLEAR NIGER'S ESSENTIAL FOOD FROM PORT, AND AS WE POINTED OUT REF B AND SUBSEQUENTLY IN PREVIOUS REFTELS, OUT GRAIN CAN ONLY FLOW NORTHWARD SLOWLY UNLESS A PRIORITY OF MALI'S NEEDS OVER NIGER'S IS ESTABLISHED.  
ENGLE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** AFDROUGHT, FOOD ASSISTANCE  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 09 JUL 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Office:** ACTION AID  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
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**TAGS:** EAID, US, DM  
**To:** STATE NIAMEY  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006